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DATE MAILED: 06/09/2004

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/614,882	07/09/2003	Akifumi Kamijima	116467	9910
25944	7590 06/09/2004		EXAM	INER
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			GURLEY, L'	YNNE ANN
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2812	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. 10/614,882 KAMLIMA, AKIFUMI Examiner Lynne A. Gurley 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812 2812			M		
Examiner		Application No.	Applicant(s)		
Lynna A. Gurley 2812		10/614,882	KAMIJIMA, AKIFUMI		
Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 30 FR 1.13(e). In no event, however, may a reply be timely flied after SIX (8) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 30 FR 1.13(e). In no event, however, may a reply be timely flied after SIX (8) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 30 FR 1.13(e). In no event, however, may a reply be timely flied after SIX (8) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or adended period for reply will, by shallure, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S. 0, \$133). Any reply received by the Office lister than from amonths after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely flied, may reduce any search plants the same state of the same plants and the same state than the mailing date of this communication, even if timely flied, may reduce any search plants are subjected to a search plant them adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status 1) □ Responsive to communication(s) filled on 111 March 2004. 2a) □ This action is FINAL. 2b) □ This action is non-final. 3) □ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the ments is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) □ Claim(s) □ is/are pending in the application. 4a) □ Claim(s) □ is/are allowed. □ Claim(s) □ is/are allowed. □ Claim(s) □ is/are are subjected to by the Examiner. □ Claim(s) □ is/are are subjected to by the Examiner. 10) □ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 110 □ The post of required the provision of the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the draw	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit		
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ② MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Edensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a raply be timely filed authors 156 (b) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is apecified above, the maximum schildrury period will apply and will expire SIX (b) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or excheride photo for reply will, by statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (b) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or excheride photo for reply will, by statutor, parent will apply and will expire SIX (b) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or excheride photo for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (GS U.S. 6, 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any example part than adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.754(b). This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the ments is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above dain(s) 1-3 is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 4 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) 3 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 4 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 4 is/are allowed. 7) Claim(s) 3 is/are allowed. 8) Claim(s) 4 is/are allowed. 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on issue an explication and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on issue an issue are allowed. 11) Claim(s) 4 issue are allowed. 12		Lynne A. Gurley	2812		
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Edvarions of time may be available under the provisions of 3 FCR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SX (6) MONTH'S from the making date of this communication. Failure to reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period slappy and will be provided by the Contract of the reply is paid above, the maximum statutory period slappy and will apply and Village SX (8) MONTH'S from the malling date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply vell, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (SS U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than these marines after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any examed patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.794(b). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2004. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the ments is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-3 is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 4 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are objected to. 3) Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on 1 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The orath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b		ion appears on the cover she twi	ith the correspond nce address		
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11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of: 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. LYNNE A. GURLEY	Applicant may not request that any objection	n to the drawing(s) be held in abeyar	nce. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).		
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* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. LYNNE A. GURLEY	Copies of the certified copies of the	ne priority documents have been	received in this National Stage		
LYNNE A. GURLEY	• •	` ' ' '			
LYNNE A. GURLEY	* See the attached detailed Office action fo	or a list of the certified copies not	received.		
LTNNE A. GURLEY			June A. Hurley		
PRIMADY BATTLE			PRIMARY DATE:		
Attachment(s) TC 2800, AU 2812		_	TC 2800, All 2040		
1) Motice of References Cited (P10-892) 4) Minterview Summary (P10-413)			Summary (P10-413)		
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) Paper No(s)/Mail Date	3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO	/SB/08) 5) Notice of Ir	-		

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of claim 4 in Paper No. 3/11/04 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that "there is no undue burden for performing a prior art search for all of the pending claims". This is not found persuasive because the search is not coextensive for the method claims 1-3 and the device claim 4. Therefore, the search is considered to be burdensome.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

3. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Lin et al. (US 6,372,661, dated 4/16/02).

Lin shows the method as claimed in figure 2 and corresponding text with 5 levels of metallization (5 sublayers, wherein M=5 and the first sublayer is on the substrate) and each sublayer has a first portion having a sidewall and a second portion coupled to an end of the first portion near an (N+1) the sublayer; the second portion includes overhang portions that overhang and extend more outward than the sidewall of the first portion; and the first portion of the first sublayer is located on the substrate.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Liu et al. (US 6,287,961, dated 9/11/01).

Liu shows the method as claimed in figure 9 and corresponding text with 2 levels of metallization (2 sublayers, wherein M=2 and the first sublayer is on the substrate) and each sublayer has a first portion having a sidewall and a second portion coupled to an end of the first portion near an (N+1) the sublayer; the second portion includes overhang portions that overhang and extend more outward than the sidewall of the first portion; and the first portion of the first sublayer is located on the substrate.

7. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Wu (US 5,976,967, dated 11/2/99).

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Wu shows the method as claimed in figure 9 and corresponding text with 2 levels of metallization (2 sublayers, wherein M=2 and the first sublayer is on the substrate) and each sublayer has a first portion having a sidewall and a second portion coupled to an end of the first portion near an (N+1) the sublayer; the second portion includes overhang portions that overhang and extend more outward than the sidewall of the first portion; and the first portion of the first sublayer is located on the substrate.

8. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Schacham-Diamand et al. (US 5,824,599, dated 10/20/98).

Schacham-Diamand shows the method as claimed in figure 20 and corresponding text with 3 levels of metallization (3 sublayers, wherein M=3 and the first sublayer is on the substrate) and each sublayer has a first portion having a sidewall and a second portion coupled to an end of the first portion near an (N+1) the sublayer; the second portion includes overhang portions that overhang and extend more outward than the sidewall of the first portion; and the first portion of the first sublayer is located on the substrate.

9. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Agnello et al. (US 6,255,217, dated 7/3/01).

Agnello shows the method as claimed in the only figure and corresponding text with 2 levels of metallization (2 sublayers, wherein M=2 and the first sublayer is on the substrate) and each sublayer has a first portion having a sidewall and a second portion coupled to an end of the first portion near an (N+1) the sublayer; the second portion includes overhang portions that

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overhang and extend more outward than the sidewall of the first portion; and the first portion of the first sublayer is located on the substrate.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments, see the amendment, filed 3/11/04, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 4 under 102(b) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of the newly found prior art of record.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 4 have been considered but are moot in view 11. of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See the additionally art listed on the PTO Form 892 for additional structures which meet the claimed invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lynne A. Gurley whose telephone number is 571-272-1670. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Niebling can be reached on 571-272-1679. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lynne A. Gurley

Primary Patent Examiner

TC 2800, AU 2812

LAG

June 1, 2004